

SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the year 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Skegness
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my eleventh
Annual Report.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,411.788
Number of inhabited houses 1945	3,200
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1945	£102,176
Product of a penny rate	£399.11s.8d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE YEAR.

	Total	Males	Females
Births	217	118	99
Deaths	113	51	62

Number of women dying in	from Sepsis	Nil
consequence of childbirth:	from other causes	"

Deaths of infants under one year of age	6
Infant Mortality Rate	27.6

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	15
" " Measles	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
" " Cerebro Spinal Fever	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5	2			1				
15	1	6				1		
25	4	2		1				
35	1			1	1			
45	2	1						
55								
65 and upwards								
Totals:	10	9		3	1	1		

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. (other than Tuberculosis) during the year. The figures are:-

	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever	38	38	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	1	Nil	Nil
Measles	15	2	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal-Fever	3	3	Nil
Malaria	<u>1</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>
	<u>58</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>Nil</u>

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. There were three cases notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS of the AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent of Isolation Hospital; Dr. D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch. B. (St. And.).

Sanitary Inspector, Superintendent of house and trade refuse removal; S. James, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Matron of Isolation Hospital, Miss M. Lewis, S.R.N.

NURSING:

I am indebted to Miss M. Walker, the Secretary to the District Nurse Association, for the following reports of the District Nurses' work:-

General Nursing Visits	3804
Maternity and Midwifery Visits	1240
Ante-Natal	179
Post-Natal	94
Maternity and Midwifery Cases	64

I consider the above figures speak highly of the good work done by our District Nurses.

SKEGNESS INFANT WELFARE.

Attendances. The number of attendances, by children, at the Clinic during the year was 10,418. The Centre is open every Friday from 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. A Doctor and two Health Visitors are in attendance. Various duties are also carried out by Members of the Infant Welfare Committee and friends. Baby clothes are made and sold at very reasonable prices.

Immunisation. Children are immunised on the third Friday of each month.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the first and third Fridays in each month from 10.30 a.m. A qualified dentist attends periodically.

National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juice are dispensed from the Centre every Wednesday and Friday.

The Orthopaedic Clinic is held at the Centre each week, and our children attend for treatment when necessary.

The Sunlight Clinic is held twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays at 2 p.m.

I am indebted to Mrs. D. F. Edwards for the above excellent report and for which I tender my grateful thanks. I also wish to thank the nurses and Committee of the Association for their excellent work throughout the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The hospital for infectious diseases is situated in an isolated position on the Wainfleet Road, and is about two miles from the town.

There are sixteen beds available for residents and visitors.

The buildings consist of one ward block, one cubicle block, administrative block, also outhouses and housing for steam disinfectors.

I must express my thanks to the Matron (Miss M. Lewis) for the skill and careful attention given to all patients whilst in hospital.

The hospital proved adequate during the year to deal with all cases of infectious disease which arose.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Approximately 500 children under five years of age or 62% and 1,020 children between the ages of five and fifteen years or 75% had by the 31st December, been immunised under the Council's scheme.

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is a local centre for the treatment of venereal diseases and sessions are held each week on Thursday Evenings.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The County Council provide for the treatment of tuberculosis. A clinic for this purpose is established at Skegness, and sessions are held each Tuesday afternoon.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The general health of the town has been good during the year.

SCAVENGING.

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, privies, and cesspools in the area is carried out by the Council, and is under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Salvage work requires constant thought and attention, and excellent results were obtained during the year from this source.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA.

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action or result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary conditions and water supply at the public elementary schools are good.

The County School Medical Officer regularly inspects the Schools and the children. Any treatment required can be obtained through the medical practitioners in the town and through the various schemes provided by the Education Committee.

SHOPS ACT.

Inspections are made from time to time and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

HOUSING.

The general housing conditions are good.

There were a number of houses found to be overcrowded during the year.

Forty temporary houses have been erected to meet the more urgent needs of the people.

It is pleasing to note that sites are being prepared for the erection of permanent houses.

Difficulties have also been experienced in housing repairs through shortage of materials and other causes, and it is hoped that the time will soon arrive when these difficulties are overcome.

REPORT ON HOUSING ACTS INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections made and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

MEAT AND FOOD.

The three private slaughter-houses situate in Richmond Drive are visited by your Council's Sanitary Inspector during hours of slaughter.

The inspection of meat now takes up a good deal of time necessitating many hours overtime being worked.

The number of visits paid in connection with food inspection will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is stored or prepared for sale have been regularly inspected.

MILK SUPPLY.

Frequent visits have been paid to the cowsheds and dairies in the area. A good standard of cleanliness is maintained. Eleven samples of ordinary milk were submitted for analysis and of these seven were found to be unsatisfactory.

Nine samples of milk were submitted for biological examination, and all gave a negative result.

Seven samples of designated milks were examined and four were found to be unsatisfactory. Action was taken against the producer concerned, and later samples showed improvement and conformed to the standards.

MILK SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS ORDER, 1936.

There is one licensed purveyor of Pasteurised Milk, three licensed dealers of Tuberculin Tested Milk. One licence is granted to an establishment to bottle Accredited Milk.

BAKEHOUSES.

Frequent visits have been paid to the bakehouses in the district. These are clean and well kept.

There are no underground bakehouses.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The County Council is the authority for carrying out this act.

SWIMMING POOLS.

Two samples of bathing pool water were submitted for analysis, and the report showed that in both cases the water was fit for bathing purposes.

WORKSHOPS.

These were inspected periodically, and it was found in one or two instances that the attention of the occupier had to be drawn to the uncleanness of sanitary conveniences or want of limewashing of internal wall surfaces. These matters were put right without resorting to formal measures. The work carried on is mainly notor repairs, dressmaking and millinery, cycle repairs, joinery, photography and upholstery.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

Accommodation and Staff. The present accommodation for in-patients is Twenty-three Beds and Nine Private Wards.

Medical Officers. The local Medical Staff consists of Drs. M. Backwell, W. Brownlie, D. F. Menzies, J. D. O'Neill and A. Jamieson.

In-Patients.

Number of in-patients	839
Remaining in Hospital 1st Jan., 1945.	25
Admitted: Male	198
Female	313
Maternity	156
Infants born alive	142
" admitted	<u>5 814</u>

839

Operations performed on In-patients: 315 major and 47 minor.

Maternity Ward.

Remaining in Hospital 1st Jan., 1945	9
Admitted: Mothers	156
Infants	5
Infants born alive	<u>142 303</u>
	<u>312</u>

Out-patients' Department.

Total number of attendances	1141
Attendances for dressings	1019
" " Minor operations	122

X-Ray Department.

Number of cases dealt with	802
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Contributory Scheme.

The contributory scheme now has a membership of over 5,000. Any member by the contribution of 3d. per week ensures himself of all types of Hospital Treatment free.

I append herewith the Sanitary Inspector's report and would take this opportunity of stating my pleasure in carrying out my duties under a Council so earnest in the desire to ensure perfectly healthy conditions for the town.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. FRASER MENZIES, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.)

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Report of work done by the Sanitary Inspector
for the year 1945.

TOTAL NO. of NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR Nil

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| (1) | By the Local Authority | Nil |
| (2) | By other Local Authorities | Nil |
| (3) | By other bodies or persons | Nil |

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | | | |
|-----|----|---|-----|
| (1) | a. | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 120 |
| | b. | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 362 |
| (2) | a. | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | Nil |
| | b. | Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | Nil |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head.) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 120 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	107
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---|-----|
| (a) | Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1936. | | |
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | | 2 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | | |
| | a. | by owners | Nil |
| | b. | by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
| (b) | Proceedings under Public Health Acts. | | |
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | | 11 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:- | | |
| | a. | by owners | 11 |
| | b. | by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
| (c) | Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936. | | |
| (1) | Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | | Nil |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses subject to under-takings | | Nil |

	(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	1
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. - OVERCROWDING

a.(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil
(11)	Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
(111)	Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
b.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	Nil
c.(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	Nil
(11)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil
d.	Number of houses again overcrowding after being previously relieved	Nil
e.	Number of licences granted under Section 61.	Nil

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, TENTS, VANS, etc.

No. inspected during the year	600
No. of nuisances therefrom abated	17
No. removed from district	500

BAKEHOUSES.

No. in district	9
No. of underground bakehouses	Nil
No. of inspections	33
Contraventions of Factory Acts	1
Defects remedied	1

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES

No. on register	3
No. of Inspections	daily
Contraventions of by-laws	Nil
Defects remedied	Nil

COWSHEDS

No. on register	13
No. of Inspections	39
Contraventions of regulations	5
No. of milch cows in the district	approx. 168

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

No. on register	8
No. of inspections	32
Contraventions of regulations	1
Contraventions remedied	1
Any instance of disease attributed to milk during the year	No

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of premises in district	8
Number of inspections	32
Contraventions of by-laws	3
Contraventions remedied	3

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Number of shops inspected	25
Additional heating or ventilation	Nil
Additional sanitary conveniences	Nil

WATER SUPPLY.

WELLS.

New sunk	Nil
Cleansed, repaired	Nil
Closed as polluted	Nil

PUBLIC SUPPLY.

Area supplied	Whole area
Percentage of houses supplied	100%
New Cisterns provided	Nil
Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered etc.	Nil
Number of samples obtained for analysis	
(a) from wells	Nil
(b) from public supply	6
Any insufficiency and where	Nil

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

CLOSETS.

Number of houses with privy vaults in district	3
Number of houses with pail closets in district	37
Number of pail closets substituted for privy vaults	Nil
Number of pail closets repaired	9
Number of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	Nil
Number of houses with water-closets in district	3,294
Number of water-closets repaired	47

DRAINS

Drains examined, tested, exposed etc.	37
Drains unstopped, repaired trapped, etc.	52
Waste pipes, rain water pipes disconnected repaired, etc.	30
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	3
Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	2
Drains reconstructed	2

SEWERS

New lengths of sewer laid	Nil
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CESSPOOLS

Cesspools rendered impervious	Nil
Cesspools emptied, cleansed, etc.	weekly
Cesspools abolished	Nil

DISINFECTION

Rooms disinfected	47
(a) ordinary infectious disease	40
(b) tuberculosis	7
Rooms stripped and cleansed	16

HOUSE REFUSE

Number of covered ashpits	7
Number of uncovered ashpits	Nil
Number of bins substituted for ashpits	Nil
Number of houses using bins	3,327
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavengers?	Council
How often is refuse removed from each house?	Weekly
Number of complaints of non-removal	7
Method of final disposal	Salvage and Controlled Tip
Are existing arrangements for refuse satisfactory?	Yes

NUISANCES

Total number of nuisances during the year	
(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	48
(2) Reported to Council, Statutory notice issued	3
-do- -do- not issued	2

DETAILS OF NUISANCES ABATED

	After Informal Intimation.	After Stat. Notice.
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil
Smoke	3	3
Accumulation of refuse	10	Nil
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	2	Nil
Foul pigs and other animals	6	"
Dampness	27	"
Yards repaved or repaired	Nil	"
Other nuisances	5	"

OTHER APPOINTMENTS HELD BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Petroleum Officer
 Cleansing Superintendent
 House Refuse Removal and Disposal etc.
 Rodent Officer.

Supplementary remarks to Sanitary Requirements of District, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.

Infectious Disease Visits	72
Visits to Food Premises etc.	92
Rodent Control Visits	55
Miscellaneous Visits (These are visits in connection with house refuse removal and disposal, salvage matters and visits to Estate Agents, Owners and Builders)	571

